THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Drugs Sold by Generic Name

352. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Health Organisation has directed that the drugs should be sold by their generic name;

(b) whether the Government have decided to subscribe to this directive and if so, the reasons for pharmaceutical companies selling the same drugs under their own name; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take to curb this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE : (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of (a), do not arise.

[Translation]

Vacancies in Armed Forces

353. DR. BALIRAM :
SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :
SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of posts are lying vacant in different cadres of the defence forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The vacancy position for three services is given below :

	Officers	JCOs/ORs/Airmen
Army	12,972	55,263
Navy	690	2,782
Air Force	1,045	5,876

(c) In the case of Army, whether the magnitude of vacancy is large, the Government has decided to implement a project for the 'Image Projection of Army' with the help of professional Media agencies to highlight the unique and positive features of Army as a fulfilling career to attract potential soldiers to join army. In the case of Navy and Air Force the Government is making all out efforts to encourage induction of young people in Navy and Air Force giving greater publicity in newspapers and media in order to get the best.

[English]

Shortage of Accommodation for Defence Personnel

354. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of accommodation in Delhi/New Delhi areas for defence personnel;

(b) if so, whether rents have gone up in Delhi so high as to force officers and men to live most unhygienic conditions;

(c) if so, whether rental ceilings were last revised in April 1988;

(d) if so, whether the present ceilings in 'A' class cities are so low that it is hardly possible for them to meet the expenditure involved; and

(e) if so, by when the rental ceilings are likely to be revised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (e) There is a shortage of residential accommodation for service personnel in Delhi/New Delhi. However the service HQrs. have been authorised to hire private accommodation for different categories of the service officers at rental ceiling prescribed for the purpose which was last revised in April, 1988 on the basis of the recommendations of the IVth Pay Commission. The existing rental ceilings for hiring accommodation at Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta for Brigadier and above is Rs. 2100/-, Major to Colonel is Rs. 1900/-, Captain and below is 1800/- JCOs is Rs. 750/- and for NCOs and ORs is Rs. 500/-. The scales are likely to be revised on the recommendations of the Vth Pay Commission.

Agency Charges for Works on National Highways

355. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a request from Government of Maharashtra for increase in agency charges for original/maintenance and repair works relating to national highways has been pending for more than a decade with the Union Governments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective measures taken/likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.